

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1176

By Brooks H

A RESOLUTION to recognize Allen Morgan, vice president for athletics at Carson-Newman University, on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, Allen Morgan is one such estimable person, who will be taking a much-deserved retirement on June 30, 2018, after serving with distinction as the vice president for athletics at Carson-Newman University; and

WHEREAS, a 1964 graduate of Carter High School, Mr. Morgan continued his education at Carson-Newman; as a freshman baseball player, he was a part of the team that won the 1965 National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics (NAIA) National Championship, the institution's first athletic national title; and

WHEREAS, Allen Morgan has guided the sports teams at Carson-Newman to an unprecedented level of success since he accepted the position of vice president for athletics in 2012; and

WHEREAS, Carson-Newman teams have made twenty-nine trips to National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament play, and twenty-two individual student athletes have qualified for championship competitions; and

WHEREAS, during Mr. Morgan's fourth year as vice president for athletics, Carson-Newman was the only program in the country to send its volleyball, men's soccer, women's soccer, and football teams to NCAA postseason play; and

WHEREAS, both the men's and women's soccer programs earned spots in their respective national title games under Allen Morgan's guidance; his tenure also saw Carson-Newman claim its first individual national champion in track and field since 1978; and

WHEREAS, the Carson-Newman Eagles presently sit in twelfth place in the Learfield Director's Cup standings, the highest position through the winter standings the school has ever achieved; and

WHEREAS, wanting his collegiate athletes to excel in both the athletic arena and the classroom, Allen Morgan spearheaded the Eagle Scholars program; under his stewardship, the inaugural class of seventy-two athletes with a GPA of 3.25 or higher in 2013 has been far surpassed, as an unprecedented 206 athletes, sixty-six of whom have a GPA of at least 3.75, have now been awarded Gold Scholar status; and

WHEREAS, during his tenure at Carson-Newman, Allen Morgan oversaw a number of facility upgrades to the many athletic complexes on campus, including improvements to the locker rooms for the basketball, soccer, volleyball, golf, baseball, and softball teams; and

WHEREAS, prior to his tenure at Carson-Newman University, Mr. Morgan served for twenty-two years in public school administration; and

WHEREAS, as the last elected superintendent of Knox County Schools, from 1992 through 1998, Superintendent Morgan oversaw 50,000 students and nearly 7,000 employees across ninety-one schools; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his committed service, Allen Morgan received the Tennessee State PTA's 1997 Superintendent of the Year Award; and

WHEREAS, prior to serving as Knox County Schools superintendent, Mr. Morgan served as the assistant principal at Karns High School and as the principal at Powell High School; and

WHEREAS, under Principal Morgan's supervision, Powell High School was named "BEST" by the Greater Knoxville Chamber of Commerce, the first Knox County School to achieve such a title, and was one of just four Tennessee high schools to be named a finalist in the 1990-1991 National Schools Recognition Program; and

WHEREAS, after retiring from Knox County Schools, Allen Morgan joined Clayton Homes as president of CMH Parks and providing a decade's worth of sterling service, overseeing nearly 300 employees and leading the development of almost 22,000 homes in communities across the country; and

WHEREAS, a man of faith, Mr. Morgan is a devoted member of Knoxville's Wallace Memorial Baptist Church; and

WHEREAS, his many accomplishments aside, Allen Morgan is most grateful for the love and support he shares with his wife, Phyllis Mitchell Morgan; together, they have a son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Melanie Morgan, and a granddaughter, Collins; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Morgan exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to family and community that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, Allen Morgan has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we extend to Allen Morgan our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors, as we pay tribute to his meritorious service to the athletic program at Carson-Newman University.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.